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VII. THE BRITISH EMPIRE

THE UNITED KINGDOM.—Although often fiercely attacked upon the grounds of extravagance and failure to make progress in the settlement of the Irish question, the **Lloyd-George coalition ministry** was able to maintain itself throughout the period under review. —Several important **changes** occurred in **high administrative offices**. In February, Viscount Milner, Secretary of State for the Colonies, and Walter Long, First Lord of the Admiralty, resigned their positions in the cabinet. Thereupon W. L. Spencer Churchill became Secretary of State for the Colonies; Sir Laming Worthington-Evans, Secretary of State for War, in succession to Churchill; Lord Lee, First Lord of the Admiralty; and Sir Arthur Griffith-Boscawen, Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, in succession to Lord Lee. When the Minister of Agriculture stood for reelection at Dudley he was defeated by the Labor candidate, but Lieutenant-Colonel Boles of Taunton resigned his seat in order to give the defeated minister another chance of election. In this contest the minister was successful. A sensation was caused in political circles on March 17 by the **resignation of Andrew Bonar Law** as leader of the House of Commons and Lord Privy Seal in the cabinet. The resignation was caused by failing health due to long and arduous service. On March 21 J. Austen Chamberlain was unanimously elected as Unionist leader in the place of Mr. Law, and was appointed Lord Privy Seal. Other important **ministerial changes** followed. Lord Edmund Talbot succeeded Viscount French as First Viceroy of Ireland under the Home Rule Act. Lord Talbot was the first Catholic to be appointed Viceroy of Ireland. Sir Robert S. Horne, who was President of the Board of Trade, became Chancellor of the Exchequer in the place of Mr. Chamberlain; Christopher Addison, who had been Minister of Health, became Minister without Portfolio; F. E. Guest became Secretary of State for Air; Stanley Baldwin became President of the Board of Trade; Sir Alfred Mond, who was First Commissioner of Works, became Minister of Health; the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres became First Commissioner of Works; and F. G. Kellaway became Postmaster-General.—On April 25 J. W. Lowther, **Speaker of the House of Commons** since 1905, resigned his position. He was succeeded by J. H. Whitley, Deputy Speaker since 1911.—Justice A. T. Lawrence was appointed **Lord Chief Justice** in the place of Lord Reading, new Viceroy of India.—Ministerial appointments and resignations caused a considerable number of **by-elections** during the year. In August Labor succeeded in gaining South Norfolk from the Coalition by a majority of over 2,000. In the Woodbridge Division of Suffolk the Coalition candidate defeated the Labor candidate by a majority of almost 1,200. The Coalition majority at the general election in 1918

was 1,800. The Ilford contest, in October, was likewise in favor of the Coalition, whose candidate won by a majority of over 9,000. In November the by-election in the Wrekin Division of Salop resulted in a victory for Major-General Townshend, Independent. His majority over the Labor candidate was almost 4,000. In the contests at Abertillery and West Rhondda the Labor party candidates were successful. The Coalition won in the by-election at Hereford but its majority was reduced from 7,950 in 1918 to 2,359. In Dover, however, the Government sustained a sensational defeat. A majority of 6,128 in the general election was changed into a defeat by a majority of 3,130. Colonel Sir Thomas Polson, Independent, was elected over Major J. J. Astor on an anti-waste platform. The Cardigan election was won by the Coalition by a 3,590 majority. Four by-elections occurred early in March. In East Woolwich, the Coalition candidate, Captain R. Gee, defeated Ramsay MacDonald, Labor candidate, by 683 votes; in Dudley, James Wilson, the Labor candidate, defeated Sir A. Griffith-Boscawen, Coalition Minister of Agriculture; in Kirkcaldy and in Penistone the Labor candidates were successful. Coalition candidates were returned in Taunton, Pollock, Dorset, Bedford, Bewdley, Hastings, Penrith and Abingdon, but were defeated in St. George, Heywood and Hertford. In St. George's and Hertford, Independent Anti-Waste candidates were successful; in Haywood the Labor candidate was elected. Since the last general election the Coalition lost fifteen seats to Labor, Liberals and Independents, and gained one seat from Labor.—On November 1 **borough elections** were held. The Labor party had 747 candidates in the contests. Of these 199 were elected and 548 defeated. No decided change occurred in the strength of the major parties.—**Parliament** continued in session until December 23 except for several weeks' recess in September and October. The **Finance Act** of 1920 increased the duties on spirits, beer and wine; placed an additional duty on cigars; repealed the customs duties on motor spirit; established the income-tax rate at 6s.; and increased the excess-profits tax from forty to sixty per cent.—The **Mining Industry Act** provided for the establishment of a Mines Department of the Board of Trade and prescribed its powers and duties relative to the exportation and price of coal.—The **Agriculture Act** provided for the continuance of the Corn Production Act of 1917; laid down the minimum prices for wheat and oats; and authorized the Ministry of Agriculture to enforce proper cultivation.—The **Dyestuffs Act** prohibited the importation of synthetic dyestuffs except under license.—The **War Emergency Laws Act** continued temporarily certain emergency enactments and regulations.—The **Emergency Powers Act**, passed when the railway strike was threatening, provided that in case of serious interference with the supply and distribution of food, water, fuel, light, or means of locomotion His Majesty may

declare a state of emergency and authorize such action and make such regulations as may be necessary for the preservation of the peace and for securing the necessities of life to the community.—The **Restoration of Order in Ireland Act** provided that where it appears to His Majesty in Council that, owing to the existence of a state of disorder in Ireland, the ordinary law is inadequate for the maintenance of order, regulations may be issued by the King in Council under the Defence of the Realm Act for securing the restoration and maintenance of order. All regulations so made must be laid before Parliament as soon as possible.—The **Government of Ireland Act** (*cf.* last RECORD, pp. 95-96) received the royal assent on December 23. The committee stage of the bill was completed early in November. One of the last debates during that stage was on an amendment proposing to confer on the Irish parliament control over customs and excise. Although the amendment was ably supported it was rejected by 166 votes to 37. On November 11 the division on the third reading of the bill resulted in 183 for and 52 against. There were excellent debates on the Home Rule bill in the House of Lords, the speech of Lord Grey in favor of such fiscal autonomy for Ireland as the Dominions possess being especially noteworthy. Lord Midleton's motion that the House adjourn for a fortnight, during which representatives of the parties might meet and improve the bill was rejected by 86 votes out of 268 cast. On December 2, the Government suffered a defeat when an amendment to the bill providing for an upper house in each of the Irish parliaments was adopted by a vote of 120 to 36. The bill obtained its third reading on December 14 and was passed, the first Home Rule Bill to receive the approval of the House of Lords. The House of Commons accepted the amendment of the Lords relative to the senates for Ireland and compromised on their other amendments.—During the fall there were many economy debates but supplementary estimates were presented by the government and approved by the House. The original Army estimate was £125,000,000 but £39,750,000 supplementary estimates were voted in December, bringing the total up to £164,750,000. Later votes brought the total of supplementary estimates to approximately £78,000,000.—On February 15 Parliament was opened by the King with impressive ceremonial. The **King's speech** announced that the estimates to be presented by the Government would reflect a determination to reduce expenditure to the lowest level consistent with the well-being of the Empire; deplored the criminal violence rampant in Ireland but expressed the hope that the majority of the people of Ireland would soon repudiate violence and honestly seek to work out the provisions of the recent act conferring upon them the responsibilities of self-government; and recommended the passage of the Unemployment Insurance Bill, the bill to safeguard essential key industries, the Rail-

way Reorganization Bill, and bills for the completion of land-purchase in Ireland and the regulation of the sale of alcoholic liquors—all of which would be presented by the Government. He also hoped that the reform of the House of Lords would receive attention.—In the **debates on the address** in reply to the speech from the Throne, which occupied the Commons for one week, the subject of unemployment received considerable attention. The Labor members accused the Government of failing to make adequate provision for those out of work. The Prime Minister and the Minister of Labor vigorously defended the Government, Mr. Lloyd George condemning particularly the refusal of the Bricklayers' Union to admit ex-service men. To ask for the right to work and then make it conditional on the consent of the unions was a "sham and hypocrisy". On the division that followed the debate, the Labor amendment was lost, 262 to 84. Amendments criticizing the policy of the Government in regard to German reparations and the trial of war criminals, and in regard to reprisals in Ireland, were lost by about the same majorities. Shortly after the beginning of the session the estimates for various services were submitted to the House of Commons. On April 25 Mr. Austen Chamberlain, though no longer Chancellor of the Exchequer, presented the **budget for 1921-22** in the House of Commons. A new loan was proposed for the purpose of converting into long-term securities some of the war bonds which were to mature during the next few years. The total ordinary expenditure was estimated at £974,000,000 but the Government proposed to raise £1,058,000,000. The following final balance sheet is contained in the Treasury White Paper. Ordinary receipts—customs, £126,800,000; excise, £196,200,000; motor tax, £9,000,000; estate duties, £48,000,000; stamps, £21,000,000; land tax and house duty, £2,500,000; income tax, £410,500,000; excess-profits duty, £120,000,000; corporation-profits tax, £30,000,000; post-office, £60,000,000; crown lands, £650,000; receipts from sundry loans, £12,000,000; miscellaneous receipts, £21,500,000; total receipts, £1,058,150,000. Expenditures—total consolidated Fund Services, £371,272,000; supply services: army, £95,963,000; navy, £80,479,000; air force, £16,940,000; civil services, £327,503,000; customs and excise departments, £14,701,000; post-office services, £67,165,000; total expenditures, £974,023,000. Against the surplus of £84,127,000 must be set contingencies particularly in connection with the coal-stoppage. It was estimated that the sum to be realized from war assets would be £158,500,000; that expenditures in the liquidation of war commitments would be £65,705,000; and that over against the surplus of £92,795,000 would have to be set liabilities arising out of the liquidation of war agreements for the control of railways, in particular arrears of maintenance and deterioration. No new taxes were proposed, but the surtax of 50 per cent *ad valorem* on cigars was abandoned. A specific

duty of 15s. a gallon was imposed on sparkling wines instead of the existing duty of 7s. a gallon and an *ad valorem* duty of 33½ per cent. The income tax remained at 6s. in the pound; the super-tax, from 1s. 6d. to 6s. in the pound, according to the size of the income; corporation tax, 1s. in the pound on profits of limited-liability companies after the first £500; motor cars, £1 per horse-power unit; motor bicycles, £1 10s. to £4; beer, £5 per barrel; spirits, 75s. 4d. per proof gallon; postage, letters, 2d.; newspapers, 1d.; postcards, 1d.; telegrams, minimum 1s.—Although financial matters consumed the largest amount of the time of Parliament during the first months of the session, a number of important laws were enacted. The **German Reparation Act** provided machinery by which the failure of Germany to meet the Allies' reparation claims may be punished by a levy on German imports entering the United Kingdom.—The **Emergency Unemployment Act** increased unemployment pay to 18s. per week.—The **Decontrol of the Coal Mines Act** provided that Government control of the coal industry should be discontinued on March 31 instead of on August 31.—The **Tribunal of Inquiries Act** authorized the setting up of tribunals to inquire into matters of urgent public importance. The bill was considerably modified by the House of Lords.—Other bills that were much debated, but which had not been enacted at the close of the period under review, were those dealing with divorce-law reform, liquor-licensing, safeguarding key industries and preventing dumping, railway reorganization, and unemployment insurance.—The violent opposition aroused by the revenue bill caused the Government to announce that the bill would not be pressed. The change proposed in the administration of the income tax was the chief object of the attack on the bill.—The first **Imperial Conference** since the war convened in London on June 20. Lloyd George welcomed the representatives of the self-governing dominions and of India and spoke of the world situation and the significance of the gathering. "There was a time", said the Premier, "when Downing Street controlled the Empire. Today the Empire is in charge of Downing Street." The delegates present were: Lloyd George, Austen Chamberlain, A. J. Balfour and Winston Churchill for the United Kingdom; Arthur Meighen, Prime Minister of Canada; W. M. Hughes, Prime Minister of Australia; W. F. Massey, Prime Minister of New Zealand; General Smuts, Prime Minister, Thomas Smartt, Minister of Agriculture, and Col. H. Mentz, Minister of Defence, for South Africa; E. S. Montagu, the Maharaja of Cutch, and Srinivasi-Sastri for India. The meeting on June 21 was addressed by General Smuts and Premier Hughes. Both urged the conference to invite Japan and the United States for a discussion of the limitation of naval armaments. On June 27 Premier Meighen of Canada discussed the **rights of the Dominions relative to foreign affairs**. He advanced, it is reported, propositions to

the effect that on all questions of foreign policy more directly affecting the British Government the Governments of the Dominions should be kept constantly informed; that on all questions of foreign policy affecting the Empire as a whole the Dominions should be consulted; that the British Government should make no treaties or special alliances without consultation with the Dominions, and that such treaties should be subject to the approval of the Dominion parliaments; and that on all questions arising between the United States and Canada the advice of the Dominion government should be accepted. At the meetings on June 28 and 30 the question of the renewal of the **Anglo-Japanese alliance** was discussed. Lord Curzon, the Foreign Secretary, explained to the Conference all the aspects of the alliance and Mr. Balfour emphasized the necessity of bringing the alliance into harmony with the requirements of the League of Nations.—The year under review witnessed continuous **warfare in Ireland** between Irish extremists and the British forces (*cf.* last RECORD, pp. 98-99). The large number of assaults made by the revolutionaries on the military and the police naturally led to reprisals in which the innocent often suffered. From August 26 to September 2 a serious conflict between the factions raged in Belfast. It was officially reported that 214 premises had been destroyed and 25 lives lost during the week.—On August 16 Alderman Terence **McSwiney**, Lord Mayor of Cork, was convicted by court-martial for having seditious documents in his possession. He was removed to Brixton Prison, London, where he died after a hunger strike lasting 74 days.—A new element of strife was introduced in Ireland by the advent of the "**Black and Tans**", recruits of the Royal Irish Constabulary enlisted in England. A detachment of these forces on September 21 sacked and burned Balbriggan in retaliation for the murder of two policemen. A few days before, a pitched battle was fought near Enniskerry, North Wicklow, between the military and Sinn-Feiners. On November 22, 14 officers and ex-officers were killed in Dublin and on the same day Crown forces fired on a football crowd in Dublin, killing 12 spectators and wounding many others. On November 30 a patrol of the Auxiliary Division was ambushed at Macroom and 17 members were killed. On December 10 the Prime Minister announced that martial law would be proclaimed in four Irish counties and that the death penalty would be imposed upon those who after a certain date were found in the possession of arms or were wearing unauthorized uniforms. A few days later the City Hall at Cork and property worth \$15,000,000 in the heart of the city were destroyed by incendiaries. On December 29 the Parliamentary Labor Party passed a resolution demanding that the Government withdraw all armed forces from Ireland and allow elections to be held for an assembly to establish an Irish constitution. Late in December the Government published an

official statement relative to the **outrages** committed by **Irish revolutionaries** during the year. It comprised 69 court-houses and 532 R. I. C. barracks destroyed, 73 R. I. C. barracks damaged, and 31 raids on mails. The casualties suffered by Crown military forces were 54 killed and 116 wounded; by the police, 176 killed and 351 wounded.—Toward the end of the year it became clear that **negotiations for a truce** were in progress. On January 6 Rev. Michael O'Flanagan, Vice-President of Sinn Fein, had a conference with Lloyd George. These efforts were continued during the following months. In the meantime the government continued its policy of repression against violators of the law. But outrages and reprisals went on unabated. On March 7 Eamonn de Valera, the Irish Republican leader, issued a manifesto, adopted at the January meeting of the Dail Eireann, in the form of an address to the representatives of foreign nations, demanding self-determination for Ireland.—On May 13 **elections** were held in **Ireland** for members of the new parliament provided for in the Home Rule Act. Four imperialist candidates were returned unopposed for Dublin University. In all of the other 124 constituencies of Southern Ireland, Sinn-Feiners, who had declared that they would not take the oath of allegiance to the Crown and would thus prevent the new Parliament from functioning, were returned unopposed. On May 24 the contested elections for members of the **Northern Parliament** took place. The Unionists secured 40 seats as against 11 won by Sinn-Feiners and Nationalists. Among the Sinn-Feiners elected were de Valera, John MacNeil, Michael Collins, chief of the Irish Republican Army, and Arthur Griffith. Joseph Devlin, Nationalist, was also elected. On June 7 the organization of the Northern Parliament took place at Belfast. The 40 Unionist members were sworn in as were also a large number of government officials, but the opposition failed to put in its appearance. The new Viceroy of Ireland, Viscount Fitzalan, formerly Lord Edmund Talbot, presided at the ceremonies. Robert William Hugh O'Neill was unanimously elected Speaker. Premier Sir James Craig, who succeeded Sir Edward Carson as leader of Ulster Unionists, announced the following **cabinet** members: Home Secretary, Sir Dawson Bates; Minister of Finance, H. M. Pollock; Minister of Education, The Marquis of Londonderry; Minister of Labor, J. M. Andrews; and Minister of Agriculture, E. A. Archdale. It was announced that the King would open the Parliament in person on June 22.—The elections, however, did not bring a cessation of fighting, burning and reprisals. In attacks upon the Crown forces during the week ending May 16, some 33 persons were killed and on May 25 the Dublin Customs House, one of the most beautiful buildings in Ireland, was burned by Sinn-Feiners. The damage was estimated at \$10,000,000, which sum, Lloyd George stated, Southern Ireland would be forced to pay in additional taxes. During

the fighting that accompanied this act of violence, 7 civilians were killed, 4 auxiliaries and 7 civilians wounded, and 111 prisoners taken by the police.—The Irish revolutionaries even attempted, so it was alleged, to carry their methods of terrorism into England. On May 15 fires ascribed to Irish incendiaries broke out in London and Liverpool.—The **northern Parliament** was opened on June 22 by the King, who in his speech made a plea for the settlement of "the age-long Irish problem". After referring to the fact that self-government had been granted to other parts of the Empire, also divided in race and religion, he said: "I am emboldened by that to look beyond the sorrow and anxiety which have clouded of late my vision of Irish affairs. I speak from a full heart when I pray that my coming to Ireland today may prove to be the first step towards an end of strife amongst her people, whatever their race or creed. In that hope I appeal to all Irishmen to pause, to stretch out the hand of forbearance and conciliation, to forgive and to forget, and to join in making for the land which they love a new era of peace, contentment, and good-will. It is my earnest desire that in Southern Ireland, too, there may ere long take place a parallel to what is now passing in this hall." In following up the favorable impression made by the speech of King George, the Prime Minister on June 24 sent a personal letter to de Valera, inviting him to come to London with such colleagues as he might choose to attend a **conference** with the British Government and Sir James Craig, Prime Minister of Ulster. The invitation was accepted and during the last days of June preparations were made for the conference, in which great hope was placed by both parties to the controversy. The first meeting was held early in July.—A summary of the **liquor polls** held in Scotland early in November showed that 149 districts decided upon no change, 24 favored a reduction of licenses, and 18 voted dry.—**Labor conditions** in the United Kingdom continued threatening throughout most of the year. Industrial depression causing much unemployment and consequent demands upon the Government for subsidies still further complicated an already serious condition. In August at the conference of the **Miners Federation** it was decided to demand of the Government that the price of domestic coal be reduced 14s. 2d. per ton and that wages be increased from 2s. per day for adults to 9d. for workers under 16 years old. Protracted negotiations to avert a strike followed. On October 14 the Federation, against the advice of Robert Smillie, decided to reject the owners' offer of an advance in wages of 2s. a shift providing a production of 248,000,000 tons yearly were guaranteed, and two days later 1,000,000 miners went on strike. The Government immediately took action to protect stocks of coal on hand by limiting the amount to be used by railways, shipping and industry. Negotiations between the parties and the Government continued, however,

and early in November a provisional settlement was reached. The wage demands of the miners were agreed to but their permanency was made contingent upon a sustained volume of production. The miners cast a small majority against the settlement, but since a two-thirds vote was necessary for the continuance of the strike, notices urging the men to return to work were issued by the Executive Committee of the Federation.—Throughout the winter months the chief concern continued to be the **unemployment crisis**. On January 23 the number of unemployed reached 1,060,000, many of whom were ex-soldiers. Early in February the building trades rejected overwhelmingly a Government proposal for “diluting” the building industry by the addition of former service men to relieve unemployment.—A **coal-miners’ strike** was precipitated by the Government’s policy, approved by Parliament, to discontinue governmental control of the coal industry at the end of March instead of at the end of August. Negotiations between the owners and the miners came to a deadlock on March 24. The miners contended for the principle of a standard rate throughout the country while the owners demanded that rates be adopted according to the circumstances prevailing in each district. The miners’ chief grievance was against the Government because of its rejection of their demand that the State should help the industry and provide the funds necessary to enable the more unprofitable collieries to keep at work under the current rate of wages. On March 30 the Miners’ Federation sent instructions to its members ordering out all men on the day following. Even the pumpmen were ordered to withdraw although this action would mean the flooding of the mines and great industrial disaster. Thereupon a royal proclamation was issued declaring “a state of emergency”. At midnight on March 31 work ceased in practically all of the mines. The Board of Trade ordered the rationing of coal. Conditions became more threatening on April 8 when the railway men and the transport workers declared for a **sympathetic strike** to begin on April 12. A six-hour conference on April 11, attended by the parties to the controversy and the Premier, ended in failure, though the railway men and the transport workers had agreed to postpone the sympathetic strike for at least twenty-four hours. On the 13th it was announced that the men would be called out on the next day. Late on the following day Mr. Frank Hodges, the miners’ secretary, intimated at a meeting with a number of the members of Parliament that the miners would discuss the question of wages with the owners and the Government providing that their other demands, a national wage board and a national profits pool, would be considered later. These members of Parliament carried on the further negotiations which finally resulted in averting the sympathetic strike. The railway men and the transport workers supported Mr. Hodges’s offer but the miners repudiated it and insisted

upon a general strike. This disagreement caused a definite breach in the famous Triple Alliance and resulted in the withdrawal of the orders for a sympathetic strike. The miners' strike continued, however, until the end of June and was complicated by the refusal of the railroad men and transport workers to handle imported coal. The **settlement of the strike**, which had lasted over twelve weeks, was reached on June 28 by the acceptance of the Government's offer of a public grant of £10,000,000 to the miners. Wages were fixed at twenty per cent above the pre-war level and an arrangement was effected whereby labor would share in the profits of the mines. The agreement was to run to September, 1922, subject to termination on three months' notice.—On May 13 the total number of persons wholly unemployed or working systematically on short time was 3,120,000.—Toward the end of June there were considerable reductions in the wages of cotton and woollen operatives in the Lancashire and Yorkshire districts.—On June 22 the **Labor Party Conference** by a vote of 4,515,000 to 224,000 rejected the request of the **Communist Party** of Great Britain for affiliation.

CANADA AND NEWFOUNDLAND.—Sir Robert Borden, Prime Minister of Canada since 1911, resigned on July 10; he was **succeeded** by Hon. Arthur Meighen, Minister of Interior. With three exceptions the personnel of the **cabinet** was not changed although there was some rearrangement of portfolios. The new appointees were R. W. Wiggmore, Minister of Customs and Internal Revenue; F. B. McCurdy, Minister of Public Works; and E. K. Spinney, Minister Without Portfolio.—During the year a number of **federal by-elections** were held. On September 20 the counties of St. John, Albert and New Brunswick elected R. W. Wiggmore and F. B. McCurdy by large majorities. In the by-election in East Elgin, Ontario, in December, the government candidate suffered defeat. A similar election in Caribou, British Columbia, was carried by the Conservatives. The government was defeated in West Petersborough on February 7 when a Liberal candidate was elected.—As a nucleus for the **Canadian navy**, Great Britain in December presented Canada with a cruiser and two destroyers.—By an Order in Council adopted December 1, effective December 15, no **immigrant** will be allowed to enter Canada unless he possesses \$250 in his own right; if the immigrant is accompanied by his family he must have \$125 for each member over 18 years of age and \$50 for each child between 5 and 18 years.—In presenting the **annual budget** to the House of Commons on May 9 Sir Henry Drayton, Minister of Finance, stated that expenditures would total \$591,437,697 with receipts of \$435,360,971; the deficit was to be met by taxes on playing cards and liquors, and an increase of from one to two per cent on sales by manufacturers, wholesalers, jobbers and importers. The total debt of the country amounted to \$2,350,236,700.—

Canada's **trade** for the twelve months ending December, 1920, totaled \$2,639,726,135, an increase of about \$400,000,000 in imports and \$8,000,000 in exports over the previous year. Of her imports \$921,625,825 were from the United States and \$231,479,294 from Great Britain.—Substantial increases in both passenger and freight rates were made effective by the Board of Railway Commissioners on September 13.—General Lord **Byng** in June succeeded the Duke of Devonshire as Canadian **Governor-General**.—Sir Lomer Gouin, French-Canadian Premier of the province of **Quebec**, tendered his resignation in July, and L. A. Tachereau became his successor.—Elections held in **Nova Scotia** on July 27 resulted not only in the return of the Liberal government, headed by Hon. G. H. Murray, but in the overwhelming defeat of the Conservative Party, which elected but one member. The Liberals elected 29 members, Laborites 6, and the Farmers' Party 7.—Provincial elections in **British Columbia** on December 1 gave the Liberals 25, the Conservatives 16, Federated Labor Party 2, People's Party, Socialists and Independents 1 each.—Premier W. M. Martin and the Liberal government of **Saskatchewan** were reelected on June 9.—By a popular referendum New Brunswick voted, July 10, by 41,436 to 20,769 to retain **prohibition**; sale of light beer and wines was also prohibited, 38,375 to 23,769. On October 25 the four provinces of Nova Scotia, Manitoba, Alberta and Saskatchewan voted against importation of intoxicating liquors, and the following day British Columbia, by referendum, decided by a majority of over 30,000 in favor of a system of public liquor dispensaries. Distribution of liquors in the province of Quebec was placed in the hands of a Liquor Commission. Ontario on April 18 voted by a majority of over 25,000 for "bone-dry prohibition".—**Newfoundland** experienced labor difficulties during the year.

INDIA.—The agitation of the Indian Nationalists and threats of the Bolsheviks caused Great Britain considerable anxiety over India and her adjoining Asiatic possessions. Inauguration of the **new government**, in accordance with the Montagu-Chelmsford reports, met with determined opposition from Nationalists under the leadership of M. Gandhi, anti-English agitator and a disciple of Tolstoy. At the **Indian National Congress**, held September 8, Gandhi's program of **passive resistance** to the British was framed to include gradual withdrawal of children from schools and colleges owned, aided or controlled by the government; gradual boycott of British courts by lawyers and litigants and the establishment of private arbitration courts by them for settlement of disputes; refusal on the part of the military, clerical and laboring classes to offer themselves as recruits for service; withdrawal of Indians from government service and positions of honor under the government; withdrawal by candidates of their candidature for elections to the Reformed Councils and refusal on the part of the electorate to vote for any candidates; and

boycott of British goods. This plan, although it failed to meet with the success anticipated by its sponsor, intensified anti-British feeling and, aided by famine, high cost of living and continuance of the unpopular Rowlatt regulations (virtually equivalent to maintenance of martial law) has created a spirit of unrest so great as to jeopardize any hope of success by the new government. Distrust of England was further aroused by report of the Esher Committee, appointed in 1919 to inquire into the administration and organization of the **Indian army**. This committee's conclusions, apart from measures devised to grant liberal and sympathetic treatment to all ranks in the Indian army, to remove existing grievances and create new services, included the important recommendation that the ultimate authority of the Indian army be taken away from the authorities in India and transferred to the British chief of staff. The report was interpreted by the Indians as a scheme whereby the British government may use the Indian army to further its imperialistic adventures in the Near and Middle East. Despite all obstacles the **new government** was organized, appointment of governors being made in August. Sir William Meyer entered upon his duties as first High Commissioner for India on October 1; **elections** to the legislative councils had been held by January 1 and on February 8 the parliament or **Advisory Assembly** was opened at Delhi by the Duke of Connaught. Lord **Chelmsford** as Viceroy was **recalled** on September 15 and his **successor**, Lord **Reading**, former Chief Justice of Great Britain, arrived at Bombay on April 2. In opening his administration the new Viceroy expressed a desire to get close to the heart of India and as a step in this direction held his first conference with Gandhi on May 13.

OTHER BRITISH POSSESSIONS.—The **Milner Mission**, sent to investigate the cause of unrest in **Egypt** (*cf.* last RECORD, p. 104), presented a unanimous report to the British government on December 9. Its principal recommendations were: recognition by Great Britain of Egyptian independence, acknowledgment by Egypt of Great Britain's privileged position in the Nile valley, free access by Great Britain to Egyptian territory in case of war, maintenance of a British garrison in the sphere of the Suez canal, control by Egypt of her foreign relations subject, however, to her not making treaties at variance with British policy, Egypt to have her own diplomatic representatives abroad, abolition of the capitulations and the veto on legislation affecting foreigners to be vested in High Commissioners, closing of the consular courts and transfer of their jurisdiction to mixed tribunals, abolition of the system of advisers in the different Egyptian ministries, appointment of a British official to carry out operations of the Public Debt Commission and one to look after legislation affecting foreigners, and, finally, rights of British officials in Egyptian service to be safeguarded and compensation provided. The foregoing

proposals, which in general were acceptable to the Egyptian Nationalists, met with the opposition of foreigners who, as wealthy middlemen, had exploited the trade of Egypt without being subject to taxation. Likewise many prominent Englishmen, notably Winston Spencer Churchill, who succeeded Lord Milner as Colonial Secretary, were not in sympathy with any suggestion for Egyptian independence. Pending the result, Nationalist riots and demonstrations again became prevalent.—Business depression and strikes seriously disturbed **Australia** during the year. To supplement the Arbitration Court, which had been seriously hampered by congestion, an Industrial Peace Act was passed providing for the establishment of central and district councils composed of an equal number of employers and employees. These councils were to have advisory jurisdiction only.—The government of **New Zealand** decreed that no motion-picture film depicting thievery, robbery, murder or suicide may be shown after May 1. During the year under review there was a rapid increase in the formation of agricultural coöperative societies.—Prince Arthur of Connaught, the new Governor-General of **South Africa**, assumed office in October. As a result of one of the most important elections ever held, the South African party under General Smuts on February 8 won a sweeping victory over the Nationalists headed by General Herzog. The issue was definite: General Smuts's party stood for union with the Empire, the Nationalists favored secession. The returns gave the South African party 76; Nationalists 41; Laborites 9; Independents 1. The Cape Federation of Labor unions voted to affiliate with the Third International.

VIII. CONTINENTAL EUROPE

FRANCE.—During the year questions relating to the Versailles Treaty, especially German reparations and disarmament, economic and social problems and matters of foreign policy, have occupied the foreground in French politics. As a result of the Spa Conference (*cf. supra*, p. 1) Premier Millerand was able to report that France was assured eighty per cent of her necessary coal supply at one-fifth less cost. The Spa arrangement did not meet with entire approval, but the Chamber expressed confidence by a vote of 356 to 169.—The **resignation of M. Deschanel** as President of the Republic, September 15, on the plea of ill-health, caused intense political excitement. Election of his successor occurred on September 23 when M. Millerand, the Premier, was chosen by a vote of 695 out of a total of 892, the Socialists refusing to vote. On September 24 Georges **Leygues**, Minister of Marine under Clemenceau, was chosen **premier** and minister of foreign affairs, and the following day received the support of the Chamber, 507 to 80.—At an extraordinary session of the parliament which assembled on November 8, primarily to consider the 1921 budget,